

Home Town Helps

WHERE GERMAN CITIES EXCEL

Count von Bernstorff Tells of the Public Spirit Which Has Brought Them Advantages.

Count von Bernstorff, German ambassador to the United States, recently spoke before the Women's Civic League of Baltimore on "Government of German Cities."

The usual form of government in a German city, he said, was a council, which elected an ober burgomeister and two assistant burgomeisters, or city managers. The position of the first was practically a life position if he were satisfactory, although he was re-elected at long intervals.

Speaking of the old city of Frankfurt, County Bernstorff described how it had grown. Streets, he said, are not laid out by private enterprise, but by the action of the city council. The council also regulates buildings in the various sections of the town and forbids that there shall be more than a certain proportion of the land built upon, so that there may be sufficient open spaces.

Within the last ten years, he declared, Frankfurt had expended more than \$50,000,000 in the purchase of land in the city and outside of it, so that at present the city owns 16,650 acres, 3,800 of which are outside of the city limits. Owning this land, the city regulates its growth as seems best, builds model homes for workmen, constructs parks and playgrounds, and builds schools, colleges, museums and the like.

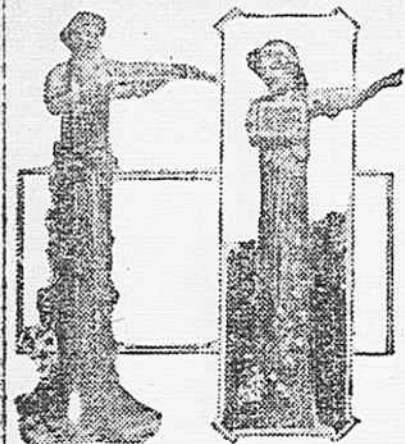
"The workmen's insurance laws," said the speaker, "have had a great influence on the German cities in getting a strong impetus which led to the creation of many useful municipal institutions."

Leipzig, he said, was devoting more of the land held by the city for building suitable homes for the poor, and the insurance companies were making loans for building workmen's cottages.

SIGNPOSTS ADORN THE ROAD

Real Works of Art Are Those to Be Found Along the Principal Highways in Silesia.

American sign painters and advertisers using outdoor publicity may find a lesson in the artistic signs along the public highways of Silesia. In one a peasant, pipe in his mouth, leaning on his scythe, gives direction and dis-



Carved Signposts on Silesian Highway

tance to the next town; in the other, a schoolboy, pointing, shows the way to the famous hot springs of Warmbrunn. Little objection could be urged against such signposts even by the most insistent advocates of billboard abolition.—Popular Mechanics

Street Trees in Minneapolis.

An official report on street trees in Minneapolis shows the following records: Street trees replaced, 333; number planted fall of 1912 and spring of 1913, 2,104; general pruning done on 4,370 trees; permits issued for pruning, 627; for tree planting, 235. Surely this is a record to be proud of and presents a strong contrast to the record of Los Angeles during the same period, where absolutely nothing was done. It is also pathetic to contemplate the fact that this inaction is still to be "the order of the day."

Almost Invisible Microbes.

The smallest things are the microbes that are found in the earth, the air, water and our bodies. So tiny are some rod-like microbes that it would take 10,000,000, placed end to end, to reach a yard, while 100,000,000 would only cover a nickel, and it would take 640,000,000,000,000 to make a solid cubic inch. Microbes if nourished will multiply more than a millionfold an hour. A single grain of earth will contain from 1,000 to 300,000 microbes. Without them we would have neither health nor disease.

Plan \$5,000,000 Park.

Plans for the transformation of an enormous tract of 14,000-acre Palos Verdes ranch, overlooking Los Angeles harbor and the Catalina channel, into one of the most magnificent residential parks in the nation for American millionaires, are being made. Frank A. Vanderbilt of the National City Bank of New York and his associates recently purchased the tract for \$1,750,000 for this purpose. The plans which now stand promise to involve an expenditure of \$5,000,000.

THREE WAYS FOR USING RYE

Make Valuable Fertilizer on Any Kind of Land, But More Especially on Stiff, Clay Soils.

(By E. J. MILLER.)
Rye which is sown in the fall for green feed during cold weather may be economically used in at least three ways the next spring and the early summer. One of these ways is to use it for pasture. Another way is to use it for a summer soiling crop for milk cows.

An acre or two on rich land will produce a large amount of early green feed, and the crop can be used for nearly three months.

To use rye as a soiling crop, keep the stock off it in the spring; and when it is tall enough to cut, take the mower to the patch and cut enough for two days' feeding. Rake this and store in the barn and feed out. Then mow enough more for another two days' feeding and continue the same method until the patch is all mown.

By this time the rye of the first mowing will have grown up enough for a second cutting, and in succession it may be cut several times during the early spring and summer. In this way a great number of cows may be kept on a limited area of pasture.

And a third and excellent way to use rye the following spring, after sowing is to allow it to grow up almost to maturity and plow the entire crop under as green manure. For this purpose allow it to head out and seed come into the milk stage.

It is a valuable fertilizer on any kind of land, and especially valuable on stiff, clay soil, and making the soil friable and easy to work.

The mature rye plant decomposes quickly when plowed under, and gives no ill effects from souring.

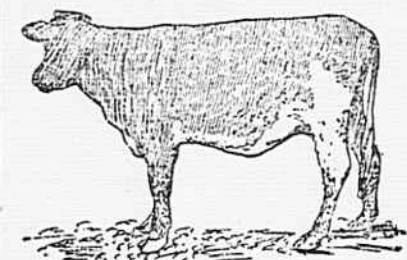
The humus content of the soil is appreciably increased, and the general good effect on the soil can be noticed on succeeding crops for two or three years.

KEEP THE DAIRY COW CLEAN

Problem of Sanitary Milk Supply Is to Exclude All Bacteria Possible—Some Precautions.

Milk from healthy cows is practically free from bacteria when secreted. The problem of a sanitary milk supply, therefore, is to keep out all bacteria as far as possible. Bacteria are introduced into milk mainly by small particles of dirt which either drop into the milk from the cow or are carried in the air.

Repeated tests have shown that even when a cow is cleaned as thoroughly as is possible under stable conditions, particles of dust will be thrown off from her body during milking time, and these get into the milk and contaminate it. Cows should be kept away from sources of contamination, such as sink holes in which stagnant water accumulates, for such holes breed enormous numbers of putrefactive bacteria which are especially dan-



Clean Milk Cannot Be Produced From Cows Kept in Muddy or Filthy Yards.

gerous to infants, causing digestive troubles. There should be no places in the barn yard for water to stagnate. The manure should be kept gathered up, and every other effort made to keep the cow free from contamination.

The cow should be thoroughly cleaned, preferably immediately before milking. It is also well to clip the hair short around the flanks and udder, and always advisable to moisten the flanks just before milking. All of these precautions tend to lessen the amount of dust or loose hair which will be given off from the cow.

FENCES SAVE MUCH PASTURE

In Many Cases Fencing of Field Will Pay for Woven Wire Used—Good Aid to Prosperity.

(By E. J. MILLER.)

Fencing and moving of fences should be done early, so that all of the spare fields can be grazed over to make use of the grasses and other herbage that have grown up in them after the early fall rains.

Much feed can be saved in this way the stock will do better and it will give the permanent pastures time to green up before the cold weather. New and clean pastures mean healthier animals, and the utilizing of all the fence rows means turning waste products into dollars.

In many cases the fencing of a field this fall for new pastures will entirely pay for the woven-wire fencing used. Buy and use good fencing for all the field. Good fencing is an aid to prosperity.

Inviting Inducements.

To the man with a clear-cut conviction of just what he wants and who has the necessary ability and courage to stay with it until it is accomplished the field of breeding dairy cattle offers inviting inducements.

Wise Economy.

It is wise economy to plant windbreaks of evergreens, arbor vitae, Norway spruce and balsam fir, a portion of each with a sprinkling of other varieties to make a pleasing contrast.

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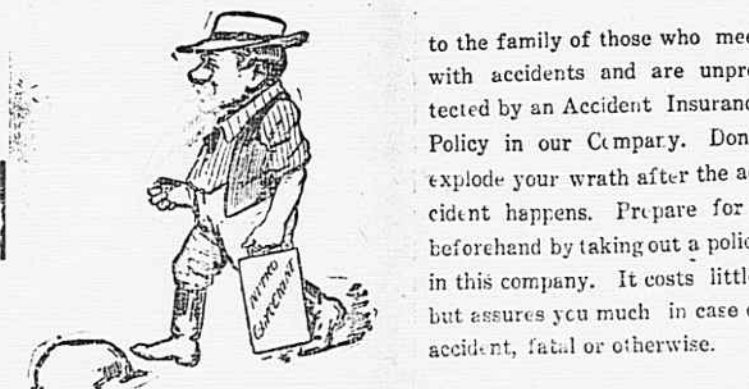
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